

# NAVY CONCENTRATES ON GENDER NEUTRALITY IN WAKE OF CHINA NUCLEAR THREAT

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. The CIA said China is buying nuclear attack submarines with missiles that experts say can destroy our entire Navy fleet. Knowing this, the Navy has decided to, and I quote, replace all aircraft carrier urinals with gender-neutral water closets, end quote.

Unbelievable. We have a dragon breathing down our necks and the Navy is constipating over urinals. What is next, bidets in powder rooms? How about some ballroom dancing lessons, folks?

Beam me up. I yield back the fact that this gender-neutral business is getting ridiculous.

## GILMAN CONDEMNS ONGOING PALESTINIAN VIOLENCE

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, the past 2 weeks, tension in the Middle East has spiraled out of control as PLO Chairman Mr. Arafat attempts to dictate Israeli concessions at the negotiating table through the unbridled use of violence and, most appallingly, through the manipulation of young children as "martyrs in training."

This massive, fundamental violation of the Oslo Accords is intentional, as underscored when the leader of the Tanzim paramilitary forces in the West Bank said yesterday that his organization would escalate the confrontations with Israel and not try to calm the situation. Marwan Barghuti said, and I quote, "This blessed Intifada is looking ahead and mass activity is moving forward."

Mr. Speaker, in today's latest outrage, a Palestinian mob killed two Israeli soldiers and dumped their bloody bodies in the streets after the pair were captured with two other servicemen earlier today in the Palestinian city of Ramallah. That is why I am appalled that the administration abstained during the recent U.N. Security Council condemnation of Israel. The administration must understand, as must the Palestinians, that you cannot have it both ways.

Today, I will be introducing a resolution along with the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON) of the Committee on International Relations condemning the Palestinian violence. I invite our colleagues to join us in co-sponsorship.

## OIL PIPELINE SAFETY

(Mr. INSLEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I would urge the House to see the failure of passage of the oil pipeline safety bill the other night, not to be seen as an end of our efforts on oil pipeline safety this year but, rather, I believe we should look at it as a very strong statement by this House that there is a bipartisan sentiment for a strong pipeline safety bill.

We have the ability this year, particularly with the extension of time, to pass a strong pipeline safety bill from this Chamber this year. We hope that that bill would have two elements: One, a very strong inspection criteria to assure Americans that the pipelines they live hundreds of feet from in fact will be inspected, and, number two, an assurance that the Office of Pipeline Safety can have supervisory authority over the training plans by operators.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is time for us to reach across the aisle and across the Chambers to fashion a consensus bipartisan bill. I believe that is possible. I am open to do so. I urge my colleagues to join me in pursuit of that strong bill.

## TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE TILLIE FOWLER

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a wonderful friend, Tillie Fowler, who has dedicated a lifetime not only to national public service but to her local community as well.

Before beginning her fulfilling tenure as a Member of Congress, Tillie devoted much of her time to helping those in need. She served as the president of the Junior League of Jacksonville, chaired the Florida Humanities Council, and was active with the American Red Cross, among many other charitable endeavors.

In 1992, Tillie was elected to Congress and immediately began to make her mark as a strong advocate of our national defense. She has worked with great success on behalf of our military personnel around the world. She always sought to ensure that our men and women in uniform were well equipped and prepared when placed in harm's way.

While protecting U.S. national security was her first priority, she also played a vital role in the passage of domestic bills, such as the 6-year Federal transportation bill which will alleviate some of the serious transportation challenges that we in Florida face.

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TILLIE has served her constituents, her State and our country well and with distinction. Her intellect and domain of critical issues, combined with her personal commitment and Southern grace and charm, made her an effi-

cient Member, a leader and a role model for young women everywhere. TILLIE FOWLER will be sorely missed. I ask my colleagues to join me in this tribute to our retiring Member.

## U.S.S. "COLE" RAMMED, AT LEAST FOUR KILLED

(Mr. SCOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, earlier today in the Arabian Peninsula the U.S.S. *Cole* was rammed by a small boat in an apparent suicide terrorist attack. Our prayers go out to the families of the sailors, especially the families of those sailors who were killed, injured, or are missing.

Mr. Speaker, at this time we do not know who was responsible, and it is important that we not jump to conclusions; but when we find out, those responsible will be held accountable.

Finally, we should congratulate our courageous sailors who responded to this tragedy. Because of their expertise, the damage and casualties were kept to a minimum.

Again, Mr. Speaker, our prayers go out to the sailors and the families.

## TENNESSEANS THE MOST CHARITABLE IN THE NATION

(Mr. DUNCAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, the Christian Science Monitor reported a few days ago that Tennesseans had given more charitable contributions on average than citizens from any other State. This report was based on a generosity index published by the Urban Institute in Washington and came from charitable deductions listed on 1998 tax returns.

Tennesseans gave an average of \$4,572. Mississippi gave the most in proportion to income with an average of \$4,070. The top five most generous States, according to the Urban Institute, were Mississippi, Arkansas, South Dakota, Louisiana, and Tennessee. Tennessee gave the most per person at over \$4,500 each. Rhode Island gave the least per person at \$2,059.

The least generous States, according to the Urban Institute, in proportion to income given to charity were Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Minnesota, and Rhode Island. It seems that the highest taxed, most politically liberal States were the least generous in giving to charitable causes, according to this report from the Urban Institute.

I want to commend my fellow Tennesseans for their generosity in giving to charitable organizations.

## WE STILL LIVE IN A DANGEROUS WORLD

(Mr. SISISKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1